

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A broadcasting apparatus that broadcasts broadcast programs, each of which is to be reproduced by a receiving apparatus in a reproduction time period between a reproduction starting time and a reproduction finishing time, the broadcasting apparatus comprising:

a scheduling unit operable to generate a schedule for transmitting the broadcast programs, the schedule including a transmission starting time and a transmission finishing time for each broadcast program, and

wherein the scheduling unit generates the schedule so that (a) as for a specific program among the broadcast programs, a transmission starting time is set at a time which is a predetermined amount of time before the reproduction starting time of the specific program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction starting time of the specific program, and (b) as for a broadcast program other than the specific program, a transmission starting time is set at the reproduction starting time of the broadcast program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction finishing time of the broadcast program,

the predetermined amount of time in the schedule generated by the scheduling unit is a time period necessary for transmitting the specific program at least once,

the scheduling unit includes a generation unit operable to generate (a) first messages which designate the receiving apparatus to store the specific program in a storing unit within the receiving apparatus and (b) a second message which designates the receiving apparatus to reproduce the specific program stored in the storing unit; and

a transmission unit operable to repeatedly transmit (a) the first messages for a duration from the transmission starting time to the transmission finishing time of the specific program, and (b) the second message in the reproduction time period of the specific program, the transmission unit repeatedly transmits contents including scripts control, for a duration from a ~~broadcasting~~ transmission starting time of the specific program to a reproduction finishing time of the specific program, and the scripts for control perform control so that (a) the specific program is stored in case of receiving the first messages and (1), the specific program is reproduced in case of receiving the second message.

12. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting apparatus of Claim 11 wherein the generation unit is operable to generate a third message to delete a program stored in the storing unit.

13. (Currently Amended) A broadcasting method of a broadcasting apparatus that broadcasts broadcast programs, each of which is to be reproduced by a receiving apparatus in a reproduction time period between a reproduction starting time and a reproduction finishing time, the broadcasting method comprising:

a scheduling step of generating a schedule for transmitting the broadcast programs, the schedule including a transmission starting time and a transmission finishing time for each broadcast program; and

a transmission step of transmitting each broadcast program only in the time period between the transmission starting time and the transmission finishing time according to the schedule,

wherein in the scheduling step, the schedule is generated so that (a) as for a specific program among the broadcast programs, a transmission starting time is set at a time which is a predetermined amount of time before the reproduction starting time of the specific program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction starting time of the specific program, and (b) as for a broadcast program other than the specific program, a transmission starting time is set at the reproduction starting time of the broadcast program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction finishing time of the broadcast program,

the predetermined amount of time in the schedule generated in the scheduling step is a time period necessary for transmitting the specific program at least once,

the scheduling step includes a generation step of generating (a) first messages which designate the receiving apparatus to store the specific program in a storing unit within the receiving apparatus and (b) a second message which designates the receiving apparatus to reproduce the specific program stored in the storing unit,

the transmission step includes repeatedly transmitting ~~transmits~~ (a) the first messages for a duration from the transmission starting time to the transmission finishing time of the specific program, and (b) the second message in the reproduction time period of the specific program,

in the transmission step, contents including scripts for control are repeatedly ~~are~~ ^{[[is]]} transmitted for a duration from a transmission ~~broadcasting~~ starting time of the specific program to a reproduction finishing time of the specific program,

and the scripts for control perform control so that (a) the specific program is stored in case of receiving the first messages and (b) the specific program is reproduced in case of receiving the second message.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing therein a
2 program, the program making a computer of a broadcasting apparatus execute steps, the
3 broadcasting apparatus broadcasting broadcast programs, each of which is to be reproduced by a
4 receiving apparatus in a reproduction time period between a reproduction starting time and a
5 reproduction finishing time, the steps being:

6 a scheduling step of generating a schedule for transmitting the broadcast
7 programs, the schedule including a transmission starting time and a transmission finishing time
8 for each broadcast program; and

9 a transmission step of transmitting each broadcast program only in the time period
10 between the transmission starting time and the transmission finishing time according to the
11 schedule,

12 wherein in the scheduling step, the schedule is generated so that (a) as for a
13 specific program among the broadcast programs, a transmission starting time is set at a time
14 which is a predetermined amount of time before the reproduction starting time of the specific
15 program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction starting time of the specific
16 program, and (b) as for a broadcast program other than the specific program, a transmission
17 starting time is set at the reproduction starting time of the broadcast program and a transmission
18 finishing time is set at the reproduction finishing time of the broadcast program,

19 the predetermined amount of time in the schedule generated in the scheduling step
20 is a time period necessary for transmitting the specific program at least once,

21 the scheduling step includes a generation step of generating (a) first messages
22 which designate the receiving apparatus to store the specific program in a storing unit within the

receiving apparatus and (b) a second message which designates the receiving apparatus to reproduce the specific program stored in the storing unit,

the transmission step includes repeatedly transmitting ~~transmits~~ (a) the first messages for a duration from the transmission starting time to the transmission finishing time of the specific program, and (b) the second message in the reproduction time period of the specific program,

in the transmission step, contents including scripts for control are repeatedly ~~[[is]]~~ transmitted for a duration from a transmission ~~broadcasting~~ starting time of the- specific program to a reproduction finishing time of the specific program,

and the scripts for control perform control so that (a) the specific program is stored in case of receiving the first messages and (b) the specific program is reproduced in case of receiving the second message.

15. (Currently Amended) A program making a computer of a broadcasting apparatus to execute steps, the broadcasting apparatus broadcasting broadcast programs, each of which is to be reproduced by a receiving apparatus in a reproduction time period between a reproduction starting time and a reproduction finishing time, the steps being:

a scheduling step of generating a schedule for transmitting the broadcast programs, the schedule including a transmission starting time and a transmission finishing time for each broadcast program; and

a transmission step of transmitting each broadcast program only in the time period between the transmission starting time and the transmission finishing time according to the schedule,

11 wherein in the scheduling step, the schedule is generated so that (a) as for a
12 specific program among the broadcast programs, a transmission starting time is set at a time
13 which is a predetermined amount of time before the reproduction starting time of the specific
14 program and a transmission finishing time is set at the reproduction starting time of the specific
15 program, and (b) as for a broadcast program other than the specific program, a transmission
16 starting time is set at the reproduction starting time of the broadcast program and a transmission
17 finishing time is set at the reproduction finishing time of the broadcast program,

18 the predetermined amount of time in the schedule generated in the scheduling step
19 is a time period necessary for transmitting the specific program at least once,

20 the scheduling step includes a generation step of generating (a) first messages
21 which designate the receiving apparatus to store the specific program in a storing unit within the
22 receiving apparatus and (b) a second message which designates the receiving apparatus to
23 reproduce the specific program stored in the storing unit,

24 the transmission step includes transmitting ~~transmits~~ (a) the first messages for a
25 duration from the transmission starting time to the transmission finishing time of the specific
26 program, and (b) the second message in the reproduction time period of the specific program,

27 in the transmission step, contents including scripts for control are repeatedly ~~[[is]]~~
28 transmitted for a duration from a transmission ~~broadcasting~~ starting time of the specific program
29 to a reproduction finishing time of the specific program,

30 and the scripts for control perform control so that (a) the specific program is
31 stored in case of receiving the first messages and (b) the specific program is reproduced in case
32 of receiving the second message.

1 16. (New) A broadcast system for broadcasting television programs and associated
2 interactive television program content, the broadcast system comprising:

3 a program information holding unit for holding a main program having a
4 broadcast time interval and a data program having interactive program content for the main
5 program;

6 a scheduling unit for scheduling a data program transmit time interval for
7 transmitting the data program prior to the broadcast time interval; and

8 a transmission unit for repeatedly transmitting the data program in a data carousel
9 format during the data program transmit time interval and broadcasting the main program during
10 the broadcast time interval,

11 wherein the data program is transmitted before the main program is broadcast,
12 allowing a receiver to store the data program for execution during the main program.

1 17. (New) The broadcast system of claim 16 wherein the transmit unit transmits a
2 control script that commands the receiver to execute at least a portion of the main program.

1 18. (New) The broadcast system of claim 16 wherein the transmit unit transmits a
2 command that commands the receiver to save at least a portion of the data program.